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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/839,444	04/23/2001	Frederic M. Newman	016	4848

7590 06/02/2003

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EXAMINER
LE, TOAN M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2863	

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/839,444	NEWMAN, FREDERIC M.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Toan M Le	2863	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *23 April 2001*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Newman.

Referring to claims 1-15, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a plurality of well sites, comprising: storing a well file at a first computer 69 (figure 6), wherein the well file includes information about the plurality of components of the well (col. 6, lines 38-42; figure 6); transporting a second computer 46 to the well site (figure 6); providing a wireless communication link 58d between the first computer and the second computer (figure 6); communicating the well file from the first computer to the second computer through the wireless communication link (col. 6, lines 43-46; figure 6); changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site; inputting into the second computer a well file change that documents the steps of changing one of the plurality of components of the well; and making the well file

change on the second computer accessible to the first computer through the wireless communication link (col. 5, lines 4-6; figure 6), further comprising causing an instrument 62 (figure 1) to sense a part identifier, a bar code 54a sensed by way of an electromagnetic field (col. 4, lines 19-22; figure 1), of a component includes cement (col. 2, line 64), an acid (col. 3, lines 10-11), a sucker rod (col. 2, line 50), tubing (col. 2, line 51) added to the well at the well site, wherein the part identifier is associated with a digital identification value represents an alphanumeric name (col. 3, lines 34-38), inputting the digital identification value into the second computer 46, and using the identification value as part of the well file change (col. 3, lines 23-28; and col. 6, lines 18-27; figure 1).

Newman further discloses the method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a plurality of well sites comprising accessing the well file from the well site by entering a well site identifier 54 (figure 1) into the second computer (col. 3, lines 62-67) by selecting from a plurality of well site identifiers displayed on the second computer (col. 4, lines 13-14; figure 1) that helps a company involved in changing one of the plurality of components of the well (col. 5, lines 31-39), updating the well file by incorporating the well file change into the well file (col. 6, lines 38-42) includes a digital identification value that helps identify which one of the plurality of components being changed (col. 3, lines 1-28) and a date that helps identify when one of the plurality of components is being changed (col. 3, lines 53-55).

Newman does not disclose a method of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site.

However, one having an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have applied the method of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well as described in the Newman reference for a single well site instead of a plurality of well sites.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have omitted an element and its function in a combination, where the remaining elements perform the same function as before, involves only routines skill in the art. For the instant case, the method of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site is similar to managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a plurality of well sites. In re Kuhle, 526 F.2d 553, 188 USPQ 7 (CCPA 1975); In re Karlson, 311 F.2d 581, 136 USPQ 184 (CCPA 1963).

As to claims 16-17, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a plurality of well sites, comprising: storing a well file at a first computer 69 (figure 6), wherein the well file includes information about the plurality of components of the well (col. 6, lines 38-42; figure 6); transporting a second computer 46 to the well site (figure 6); providing a wireless communication link 58d between the first computer and the second computer (figure 6); communicating the well file from the first computer to the second computer through the wireless communication link (col. 6, lines 43-46; figure 6); accessing the well file from the well site by entering a well site identifier 54 (figure 1) into the second computer (col. 3, lines 62-67); entering into the second computer a company identifier (col. 4, lines 13-14; figure 1) that helps a company involved in changing one of the plurality of components of the well (col. 5, lines 31-39); changing one of the plurality of

components of the well at the well site; entering into the second computer a well file change that documents the step of changing one of the plurality of components of the well (col. 5, lines 4-6; figure 6), wherein the well file change includes a digital identification value (col. 3, lines 1-28) and a date that helps identify which one of the plurality of component is being changed (col. 3, lines 53-55); making the well file change on the second computer accessible to the first computer through the wireless communication link (col. 5, lines 4-6; figure 6); and updating the well file by incorporating the well file change into the well file (col. 6, lines 38-42).

Newman does not disclose a method of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site.

However, one having an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have applied the method of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well as described in the Newman reference for a single well site instead of a plurality of well sites.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have omitted an element and its function in a combination, where the remaining elements perform the same function as before, involves only routines skill in the art. For the instant case, the method of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site is similar to managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a plurality of well sites. In re Kuhle, 526 F.2d 553, 188 USPQ 7 (CCPA 1975); In re Karlson, 311 F.2d 581, 136 USPQ 184 (CCPA 1963).

Referring to claim 18, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a plurality of well sites,

comprising: storing a well file at a first computer 69 (figure 6), wherein the well file includes information about the plurality of components of the well (col. 6, lines 38-42; figure 6); transporting a second computer 46 to the well site (figure 6); providing a wireless communication link 58d between the first computer and the second computer (figure 6); communicating the well file from the first computer to the second computer through the wireless communication link (col. 6, lines 43-46; figure 6); changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site; entering into the second computer information that indicates the steps of changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site (col. 5, lines 4-6; figure 6); displaying on the second computer an access code of a limited useful life in response to entering into the second computer information that indicates that the step of changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site, wherein the access code allows the well file to be changed within the limited useful life of the access code; with the aide of the access code, changing the well file to reflect the step of changing one of the plurality of components of the well; and terminating the limited useful life of the access code after changing the well file (col. 5, lines 31-39).

Newman does not disclose a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site, comprising: witnessing the step of changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site.

However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included witnessing the step of changing one of the plurality of components of the well at the well site for having a better security measurement to prevent unauthorized access into the system.

As to claim 19, Newman discloses a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a plurality of well sites, comprising: storing a well file at a first computer 69 (figure 6), wherein the well file includes information about the plurality of components of the well (col. 6, lines 38-42; figure 6); transporting a second computer to the well site (figure 6); providing a wireless communication link 58d between the first computer and the second computer (figure 6); communicating the well file from the first computer to the second computer through the wireless communication link (col. 6, lines 43-46; figure 6); accessing the well file from the well site by entering a well site identifier 54 (figure 1) into the second computer (col. 3, lines 62-67); entering into the second computer a company identifier that helps identify the contractor involved in changing the component (col. 5, lines 31-39); having a contractor change a component of the plurality of components; entering into the second computer a well file change that documents the steps of having the contractor change the component of the plurality of components wherein the well file change includes a digital identification value that helps identify the component (col. 5, lines 31-39); making the well file change on the second computer accessible to the first computer through the wireless communication link (figure 6); and updating the well file by incorporating the well file change into the well file (col. 6, lines 38-42).

Newman does not disclose a method incorporated into a system of managing a well file record of a plurality of components of a well at a well site having a second contractor with a second company identifier to enter into the second computer a second well file change that documents the step of having the second contractor change the second component of the plurality

of components, wherein the second well file change includes a second digital identification value that helps identify the second component.

However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have had more than one contractor at the well site to perform those steps listed above consecutively to save time and expedite the process of well service and maintenance.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan M Le whose telephone number is (703) 305-4016. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Barlow can be reached on (703) 308-3126. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9318 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-0655.

Toan Le

May 23, 2003

John Barlow
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800